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DARTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
RAMSAY MILLAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
HAROLD HOBSON, M.R.S.Inst. : M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst., P.C.

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Darton Hall,
Darton,
May, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Darton
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration and record, my Annual Report, for the year 1937, and covering the period 1st January to 31st December. The report is drawn up in accordance with particulars submitted by the Ministry of Health in Circular 1650 and is again an " Ordinary " report.

The General Statistics of the District are as follows:—

Area—4361 acres.

Population in 1931—12,698.

Estimated population 1937—13,050.

Inhabited houses 1937—3,544.

Rateable Value—Barugh	}	£42,492.
Darton		
Kexbro'		

Estimated product of 1d. rate.

Barugh	}	£157 6s. 5d.
Darton		
Kexbro'		

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions of the Area shew little or no change from year to year. Whilst the district changes slightly in appearance, due to the passing of time and district development, the habits, pursuits and occupation of the population, seem to remain much the same. Few families leave the Area, and except on new Estates on the outskirts, few new families enter the Area. I have remarked from time to time in these reports on the reluctance of promoters of New Industries, and building site developers to avail themselves of the facilities and amenities provided within the Area. Perhaps someday, someone will show sufficient enterprise and set things moving.

The staple industry continues to be coal mining. A few men are also employed in the By-Product plants. A considerable number of persons have found employment during the past year in the building trade, particularly on those housing schemes being erected by the Council.

The number of totally unemployed persons has dropped from 540 in 1935, 345 in 1936, to 201 in the year under review. I think that the reduction is, if not all that could be desired, at least of some consolation.

During the year 157 new houses have been erected, and of these 98 have been erected by the Council. Deducting from this figure, certain houses demolished, there remains a nett increase of 100 houses over the total houses in the Area at the end of 1936. Many more houses are in course of erection, and I suggest that the figures at the end of 1938 will prove rather interesting.

The health of the people generally appears to be satisfactory. Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) show a reduction of 10 over the figure for 1936. In 1935 the figure was 118, in 1936 the figure was 92, and in the current year the number of Infectious Diseases notified was 82.

The sanitary services in general show improvement from year to year, and considering the arrears which once existed in this direction, good progress has been made.

I am pleased to report some improvement in our overcrowding figures. The percentage of overcrowded houses in 1936 being 7.2, but has now improved to 5.2. I am hoping to be able to report even more favourably on this figure at the end of the next twelve months. The overcrowding which has existed, and still does exist, is in my opinion a serious menace to the health and well-being of those unfortunates. More detailed particulars under this heading are appended further along in the report.

It will be observed that with an estimated population of 13,050, there is an increase of 150 over the year 1936; we are still 280 below the estimated population for 1935, although the number of births have exceeded the number of deaths by 414 during the past few years. In addition, I am of the opinion that many more people have entered the Area than the total number who have left the Area over this period. These figures, however, are estimated only, and the true population will not be ascertained until after the next Census.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate:—Total Births 249 (135 males and 114 females). This gives an Annual Birth Rate of 19.0 per 1,000 as against 14.9 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales.

Death Rate:—The total number of deaths was 144 (75 males and 69 females). Of these, 114 were registered in the district and 30 were registered outside the district. The figure of 144 gives a death rate of 11 per 1,000 as against 12.4 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales.

Infant Mortality Rate:—Eighteen children under the age of one year died during the year (10 males and eight females), this giving an Infant Mortality rate of 72.2 as compared with 58.0 for the whole of England and Wales. All the deaths were of legitimate children.

Still births:—The total number of still births was 19 (eight males and 11 females), two of the latter were illegitimate. The still birth rate was 1.45 per 1,000 population, as compared with 0.60 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

Number of women dying in consequence of childbirth ...	0
Deaths from Measles	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa	0
Total	0

There was one death from Scarlet Fever, no deaths from Diphtheria and no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

The rate of notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was 4.0 per 1,000 live births.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS SPECIALLY PREVALENT DURING 1937.

The total number of deaths decreased from 145 in 1936 to 144 in 1937, a nett reduction of one. The death rate, however, was reduced by 2.8, and is 1.4 less than the rate for England and Wales.

Influenza was fairly prevalent throughout the year, and there were nine deaths from this disease (six males and three females). Outbreaks of measles occurred from time to time, but, I am pleased to say, caused no deaths.

There were 30 cases of Diphtheria, 29 of which were treated in hospital, and there were no deaths from this disease. The number of cases of Diphtheria exceeded by 13 the number of cases notified in 1936.

Scarlet Fever cases notified were 29, or 15 less than for 1936. Of these cases, 23 were treated in hospital. There was one death from this disease.

There were seven deaths from Tuberculosis, 35 deaths from Heart Disease, and 15 deaths from Cancer. The two former were greater and the latter less than the figures for 1936.

There were eight deaths from Pneumonia, one less than for 1936; and eight deaths from Bronchitis, this latter also being one less than for 1936.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death—					Males.	Females
All Causes	...	....	.....	....	75	69
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	.....			.....	0	0
Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	.....	.....	.....	0	1
Whooping Cough	...	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	.....			.....	2	3
Other Tuberculosis Disease	.....		.....	.....	1	1
Syphilis	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
General Paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis				.....	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	8
Diabetes	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	7
Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	15
Aneurysm	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Other circulatory diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	4
Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4

Causes of Death (continued)—		Males.	Females.
Pneumonia (all forms)		6	2
Other respiratory diseases	.....	1	0
Peptic Ulcer	.....	2	0
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	.....	0	0
Appendicitis	.....	0	0
Cirrhosis of Liver	.....	0	0
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	.....	2	0
Other Digestive Diseases	.....	3	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis....	.....	0	1
Puerperal Sepsis	.....	0	0
Other Puerperal Causes	.....	0	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth			
Malformations, etc.	.....	5	6
Senility	.....	1	2
Suicide	.....	0	0
Other violence	.....	1	2
Other defined diseases	.....	3	8
Causes ill-defined or unknown		0	0

Special Causes—

Small Pox	.....	0	0
Poliomyelitis	.....	0	0
Polioencephalitis	.....	0	0

Deaths of Infants under One Year —

Total		10	8
Legitimate		10	8
Illegitimate	.....	0	0

Live Births—

Total	.....	135	111
Legitimate	.....	132	112
Illegitimate	.....	3	2

Still Births—

Total	8	11
Legitimate	8	9
Illegitimate	0	2

Population		13,050
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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Ramsay Millar, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health (part-time).

Harold Hobson, M.R.S.Inst., M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector (full time).

Holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board.

The certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors
of Meat and other foods.

The certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary
Science as applied to buildings and public works.

The Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Arthur Pecket Taylor,

Assistant Sanitary Inspector (full time).

S. Wilson, Temporary Assistant.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During this year there were seven deaths from Tuberculosis; 4 were of the respiratory system and 3 non-respiratory.

There were notified during the year, 20 new cases of Tuberculosis, 8 respiratory and 12 non-respiratory cases. The detailed particulars are as follows :—

New Cases of Tuberculosis during 1937.

Deaths.

Age in Years	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—15	1	...	2	6	...	...	...	...
15—25	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...
25—35	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
35—45	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
65—	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
	6	2	3	9	1	3	2	1

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The facilities provided under this heading are situated at Wakefield, and are under the control of the West Riding County Council. The importance and value of the services provided cannot be too strongly stressed, and proves of considerable help to Medical Practitioners generally, and particularly with respect to infectious diseases.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance service provided by the Darton Council has again proved its worth throughout the year, in the removal to hospital of general accident and sickness cases. Patients have been conveyed to and from Barnsley, Sheffield and Leeds, as occasion demanded.

The Public generally, greatly appreciate the service provided. A telephone has recently been installed at the home of the ambulance driver and instantaneous communication can now be effected in case of extreme urgency.

During the year, 860 cases have been conveyed to or from the various hospitals, and the ambulance has covered a distance of 10,666 miles on this work.

The ambulance provided by Messrs. Fountain & Burnley, Ltd., deals exclusively with general accident cases at the Collieries.

The Normanton Hospital Authority provides ambulance facilities, for conveying infectious cases to the isolation hospital, the cost of each case is borne by the Darton Council. Patients discharged from the hospital as free from infection are conveyed to their homes in a private taxi, the cost is also met by the Council.

TABLE OF CASES CONVEYED BY AMBULANCE OWNED BY THE COUNCIL.

No. of Cases and Mileage for 1937.

Places.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Barnsley Becketts ..	37	43	51	95	60	58	84	63	62	65	68	61	747
St. Helens, Barnsley	3	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	..	..	1	1	17
Leeds Hospitals ..	1	4	3	4	5	3	5	4	5	5	2	5	46
Sheffield Hospitals ..	2	..	1	..	2	2	4	2	4	3	..	2	22
Wakefield Hospitals	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	8
Darton Mortuary ..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	6
Huddersfield ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Bradford ...	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pindar Oaks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maternity Home ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Knaresborough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Doncaster ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pontefract ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Queens Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clinic Barnsley ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Cudworth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Royston ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Road Accidents ..	..	..	1	1	3	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	13
Cases per month ..	44	51	57	103	71	66	98	76	72	77	74	71	860
Miles	542	444	885	1083	945	768	1412	1032	948	973	746	895	10666
Total Road Accidents										13			

NURSING IN THE HOME.

I have previously mentioned that this service could be extended with great benefit to the community. The present facilities being totally inadequate for an Area of this size.

The nurse provided and maintained by the Mrs. Fountain Foundation provides the whole of the facilities under this heading. The nurse is fully engaged on this work and can obviously only deal with a small proportion of the cases requiring her attention.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The clinics and treatment centres supplying the needs of the area are situated at Gawber, Mapplewell and Darton. The three clinics are well attended and mothers and expectant mothers are advised by the doctor and nurses in attendance.

Minor ailments receive treatment and individual attention is given to each and every case.

Lectures on matters of importance on hygiene and feeding are given from time to time.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Darton and also at Gawber every fourth week.

HOSPITALS. PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

The Beckett's Hospital, Barnsley, and the Leeds Infirmary supply the needs of the area in this respect. On occasion, cases are also sent to the Sheffield Royal Hospital and Sheffield Infirmary. Some cases have also been treated at Jessop's Hospital Sheffield. The needs of the area are fully met by these hospitals.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

There are no unqualified midwives practising in the area, and the cases generally are covered by the six qualified midwives whose services meet the requirements of the district.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OF CHILDREN.

Nursing Homes are in existence at Hornsea and Scarborough for mothers whose maternity has left them in ill-health. Patients who have attended have greatly benefited from the rest and treatment provided at these homes. It would be of considerable advantage if these services could be extended, so as to provide additional facilities.

HEALTH VISITORS AND INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

These services are under the control of the West Riding County Council, and the resident Health Visitors for the area are Nurse Mindham and Nurse Thorpe. The work performed by the Health Visitors is of great benefit to the community, and both are zealous and efficient.

The Supervision of School clinics, visits to mothers and babies, and also work at the Welfare and Ante-Natal Centres, are some of the duties carried out by the Health Visitors.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

Cases under this heading are sent to Leeds Infirmary. The cases receive the best attention, and are treated in an efficient and beneficial manner.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

There has been no case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum in the area during 1937.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for the Area is drawn from four deep boreholes owned by the Penistone Urban District Council; the Darton Council distributing the supply throughout the Area. The water is of a very good quality, this is corroborated by both Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological examination, and samples are taken from time to time for this purpose. Generally speaking the supply for the year was adequate, until the boreholes were affected by a period of drought about September. This caused a considerable shortage and the whole of the Area was affected for some time. Houses on the high points were without water during the day, but obtained a supply at night time. The Council took the necessary steps to make up the shortage, and arrangements were made with an adjoining Authority for a temporary daily supply of water to augment our existing supply. The year closed with a return to normal conditions.

The number of houses now drawing water from the Council's mains is 3,050, which number is 105 greater than for 1936.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The disposal works at Low Barugh are working in a satisfactory manner, and there has been no complaint from the Rivers Board on the purity of the effluent discharged.

There have been new sewers constructed in connection with the Longsight Housing Estate, extensions of the sewers for the Higham No. 2 Estate, also an extension of the sewer at Longcroft, Mapplewell.

The 157 new houses erected during the year have all been connected to the general sewerage system. The siphons on the sewers have been scraped and cleansed; additional man-holes have been constructed at various points.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

During the year 12 houses at Spark Lane, Mapplewell, which were not previously connected to the general sewerage system, have been connected. The Council have in these

cases carried out the necessary works on the owners instruction, the cost of the actual sewer connection was met by the Council, the owners paying the cost of the alteration to existing drains. There has been no further complaint from the Rivers Board of evidence of pollution.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The estimated number of water closets at the year end was 2,220, or 222 more than at 31st December, 1936. During this year 163 new water closets were constructed for new houses, 53 privies were converted into water closets, and six additional water closets were constructed to make up shortages on existing buildings.

The number of privies converted is rather disappointing, being 57 less than the figure for 1936, and actually being the smallest number converted since the adoption of our Conversion Scheme. The water shortage at the end of the year was the greatest contributing factor to the slowing up of conversions, and as the most essential item is the provision of adequate water for flushing purposes, the Council decided to defer further schemes of privy conversion until the water supply question could be satisfactorily settled.

The number of privies now remaining in the Area is 475, and the total number of conversions carried out to date is 462.

The 53 conversions carried out affected some 96 premises; 46 of the conversions were carried out under the general scheme, and half cost was paid by the Council. The remaining seven were carried out by the owners, and no contribution was made to the cost by the Council.

The 46 conversions cost £496 9s. 6d., of which the Council contributed £248 4s. 9d., the owners also contributed a similar amount. The average cost per conversion being £10 15s. 10.3d., or £5 7s. 11d. per conversion per owner, and a similar amount as the Council's contribution. The cost per conversion shows an increase over the previous year, this is accounted for by several factors, viz.:—The increased cost of materials and labour, extraordinary long lengths of drain and water service pipe.

A table of conversions for past years is shown below:—
COMPARATIVE COSTS OF PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

Year	No. Converted with contribution	without contribution	Cost per Conversion	Total Cost
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1933	72	21	7 5 10·3	525 2 0
1934	96	19	6 17 7·7	655 17 11
1935	89	2	7 18 4	704 11 5
1936	107	3	8 6 7	891 6 6
1937	46	7	10 15 10·3	496 9 6
Totals ...	410	52		3273 7 4

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

These items are dealt with in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

MILK SUPPLIES. DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

During the year Mr. J. Smyth, M.R.C.V.S., of the West Riding Veterinary Department, has twice examined the whole of the milk cows on the registered premises situated within the area. The number of cows so examined on each visit has been approximately 350.

Mr. Smyth has, from time to time, taken samples, and as a result several animals shewing signs of Tuberculosis have been slaughtered.

After each visit a report is received from the Veterinary Department. The reports shew that the animals as a whole are in a healthy condition. The improvement to premises is still being carried on, and several producers of milk have made application for Licence to produce Grade "A" Milk.

A copy of the Chief Veterinary Inspector's Report is appended below : —

COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE WEST RIDING OF
YORKSHIRE.

Veterinary Department,
County Hall,
WAKEFIELD,

7th July. 1937.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Darton Urban District.

I have to report that Mr. R. S. Smyth, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producer's premises in the above district accompanied by the local Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hobson.

Mr. Smyth visited 26 farms and examined 337 cows (318 were in milk and 19 dry) taking one sample of milk and one of expectorate for bacteriological examination. In the latter tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the animal concerned, along with two others reported by their owners and found to be suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis, has been slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order. In addition, since my last report, three cows have been similarly slaughtered, suffering from tuberculosis of the udder, from this district, all of which were detected on the last inspection.

With the above exceptions the health of the cows was found to be good and the general cleanliness both of the cattle and premises satisfactory.

Mr. Smyth reports that there is a lack of suitable dairy accommodation for the storage of milking utensils.

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

DAY SCHOOLS.

The Day Schools serving the area are as follows:—

Kexborough	.....	.....	.....	1
Darton	.....	.....	.....	2
Barugh Green	.....	.....	.....	1
Higham	.....	.....	.....	1
Mapplewell	.....	.....	.....	2
Gawber	.....	.....	.....	2
				<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	.....	9
				<hr/>

Visits are paid to the Schools from time to time, as a routine measure. Special visits are made upon request.

Some modernising and improvement was effected during the year to the Mapplewell Senior School. Although we understand that a site for a New Senior School has been purchased at Barugh Green, no building has yet been commenced. The Barugh Green site will, I anticipate, serve the needs of the Higham, Barugh and Gawber Areas, and I suggest that these areas are badly in need of modern accommodation.

HOUSING.

Reviewing the past years work under this heading, also the works in progress and schemes projected, I feel justified in stating that our housing affairs are in a much better state than previously.

A detailed table is given later in the report of our housing work, but some brief comment here on new Housing Works will I feel be justified.

Areas Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were confirmed during the year and new housing Contracts for Re-housing purposes were commenced. Areas 11, 12, 13 and 14 were reported upon, and the Inquiry is to be held early in 1938. Areas to be known as Nos. 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 have been visited by the Sanitary Committee, myself and the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Work will shortly be commenced on these reports.

The occupants of Areas Nos. 1, 2 and 3 have been rehoused in 48 houses at Redbrook, and a scheme of 30 houses at Higham for the abatement of overcrowding has been completed.

The total number of houses in the district at the year end was 3,544 against 3,444 at the end of 1936. The next Annual Report will I am sure shew some striking increase in these figures.

The 59 new houses erected by private enterprise shows a decrease of 16 as against the total for 1936. There is still a considerable shortage of working class houses in the Area as evidenced by the fact that one never sees an empty house from year to year. A great deal of this shortage could be overcome by the erection of suitable houses by private enterprise and there are many desirable sites in the Area for this purpose.

The following tables of housing work during 1937, shew without doubt, of the Council's activity under this heading :—

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

1.	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	180
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,139
2.	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	71
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	420
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	71
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	119
5.	Number of dwelling-houses needing further action	180

Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	2
---	---

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 0

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 257

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices .. 98

(a) By Owners 11

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 87

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of representations made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation 71

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 65

(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 50

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made 1

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms the closing orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 1

Unhealthy Areas.

Have any areas been declared Clearance Areas, during 1937 ?

If so, please give full particulars as to such, including situation, number of houses, population, and action taken relative thereto.

Areas 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 Mapplewell and Staincross, and comprising 63 houses—now confirmed as regards 62, 1 house excluded by Ministry of Health ; 4 individual houses also confirmed—270 displaced persons being rehoused at Staincross. Areas 9 and 10 Barugh Ward, comprising 31 houses, — confirmed ; 114 displaced persons being rehoused at Higham. Areas 11, 12, 13 and 14 comprising 32 houses at Darton, Kexborough and Mapplewell, are awaiting confirmation. The 97 persons to be displaced will be rehoused at Kexborough and Staincross.

Number of New Houses erected during 1937.

(a) By the Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	98
(b) By Private Enterprise	.....	.....	.....	59
Total				<hr/> 157 <hr/>

Housing Conditions.

- (1) Total number of houses in the District 3,544
- (2) Number of working class houses included in the above 2,998

- (3) General observations as to housing conditions, overcrowding, and shortage of houses:—

There is still a great shortage of working class houses within the area.

Overcrowding on survey shewed 222 houses to be overcrowded. Housing schemes in hand provide for 200 houses, these are for Re-Housing displaced tenants but some are for the abatement of overcrowding.

- (4) Any special activity in house building? If so, where?

48 houses completed at Redbrook by Local Authority for re-housing. 30 completed at Higham by Local Authority for abatement of overcrowding. 20 completed at Staincross by Local Authority as part of a scheme for 130 for Re-housing and abatement of overcrowding.

- (5) Any housing scheme projected by Local Authority?—
If so, please give particulars:—

Staincross No. 1 Scheme—130 houses in progress.
Staincross No. 2 Scheme—32 houses — awaiting Sanction
Higham No. 2 Scheme—32 houses in progress.
Higham No. 1 Scheme 30 houses completed.
Redbrook—48 houses completed.
Kexborough No. 2 Scheme—38 houses — awaiting
Sanction.

- (6) Any regulations made in respect of underground
sleeping rooms? No

(7) **Town Planning.**

- (1) Have Council joined a Regional Town Planning
Committee, if so, which? Yes, Sheffield Area

- (2) Is a Town Planning Scheme in force for:—

(a) The whole of the district? No

(b) Part of the district? No

- (3) Have the Council during 1937 passed a resolution
deciding to prepare a Town Planning Scheme? No

- (8) Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections
under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925:—

Harold Hobson,

Chief Sanitary Inspector,

Council Offices, Darton.

- (9) Has any action been taken to improve the housing
conditions of tuberculous families in your district,
either by way of building new or special houses,
or the granting of special facilities for such
families to be housed?—No action has been taken.

(10) **Housing Act, 1936 Part IV—Overcrowding.**

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end
of the year 170
(2) Number of families dwelling therein 195
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 1,099
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported
during the year 18

- | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|----|
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ..... | ..... | — | 9 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | | | | 15 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of Overcrowding | ..... | ..... | ..... | 0 |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :— | | | | |

The Council have housing programme in hand which will relieve 64 cases of overcrowding in the Darton Ward and 14 cases in the Kexborough Ward.

FOOD ADULTERATION. CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

This service which consists of the taking of samples of food for chemical analysis, continues as in the past to be administered by the County Council.

NUTRITION

There are still a few cases of under nutrition within the area, due to the non-observance of the simple and practical methods of feeding. The feeding by "fancy" foods and sweatmeats as against a plain and wholesome diet is the chief cause.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious diseases as a whole shewed a reduction of 10 over the year 1936. I regret however that Diphtheria increased by 13 cases over 1936 ; but Scarlet Fever decreased by 15. There was 1 death from Scarlet Fever but none from Diphtheria. 29 of the 30 cases of Diphtheria were treated in hospital and 1 case was treated at home. 23 of the 29 cases of Scarlet Fever were also treated in hospital, the remaining 6 cases being treated at home.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF RECENT YEARS.

	Cases Notified Scarlet Fever			Deaths	Cases Notified Diphtheria			Deaths
1933	76	.....	0	.....	60	.....	4
1934	74	.....	1	.....	22	.....	1
1935	68	.....	0	.....	14	.....	2
1936	44	.....	0	.....	17	.....	0
1937	29	.....	1	.....	30	.....	0
Totals	291	.....	2	.....	143	.....	7

It will be observed from the above table, that previous to this year, there has been no death from Scarlet Fever since 1934.

Some immunisation has been carried out against Diphtheria, but the response leaves much to be desired. The 30 cases of this disease which occurred during the year may possibly have all been avoided had immunisation been resorted to a reasonable time beforehand. Diphtheria died down to some extent towards the year end, and perhaps the fear of infection faded from the minds of parents. We posted large posters throughout the area, and also distributed handbills to every house asking for support in our immunisation campaign; the results were disappointing.

There occurred 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia and 1 case of Cerebro Spinal Fever, neither of which proved fatal. There were 10 cases of Erysipelas and 11 cases of Pneumonia, 8 of these latter proving fatal.

Houses where cases of infectious disease have occurred are disinfected by the Health Department staff, either immediately after the removal of the patient to hospital, or in the event of "home" cases, immediately after the Medical Practitioner certifies the patient free from Infection.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
THROUGHOUT THE AREA DURING 1937.

Disease.	Barugh.	Darton.	Mapple- well.	Kexbro'.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever ...	3	7	7	12	29
Diphtheria ...	1	1	27	1	30
Enteric ...	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	2	1	3	5	11
Puerperal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal, others ...	1	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas ...	1	3	3	3	10
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0	0	0	1
Ophthalmia of New Born ..	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Leth...	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	9	12	40	21	82

TABLE OF INFANT DEATHS.

Cause of Death	0-1 weeks	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	Total under 1 year
Laryngitis ...	..	1	..	...	1	..	..	..	...	...
Asthemia ...	..	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	1
Atalectasis ...	1	...	...	..	1	..	..	..	..	...
Premature Birth..	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	...
Meningitis ..	...	..	...	...	..	...	..	1	..	1
Tubercular Meningitis...	...	..	..	..	...	..	..	1	1	2
Congenital Causes .	2	1	...	..	3	...	...	1	...	1
Syphillis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	1
Broncho Pneumonia .	...	...	..	..	..	1	1	...	...	2
Gastritis ..	...	...	...	1	1	...	..	..	...	...
Totals	7	2	...	1	10	3	1	3	1	8

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1937.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	29	23	1
Diphtheria	30	29	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal others	1	1	0
Pnuemonia	11	0	8
Other diseases generally notifiable.			
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0
Erysipelas	10	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally.			
	0	0	0
Total	82	54	9

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer was 15 (7 males and 8 females). The mortality from this disease was 3 less than for 1936. The figures shew fluctuations from year to year, but call for no special comment.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are still no swimming baths within the area. The Health Committee are however presenting a report to the Council under this heading, after visiting various baths in other areas.

Administration duties in the Health Department continue to increase, and the various new Acts and amended legislation call for a continual change of front. As a whole, the changes tend to improve the general sanitary condition, and are therefore worthy of considerable effort.

Steady, methodical and routine improvements are being carried out, and during the past five years, sanitary circumstances have shewn considerable advancement.

I beg to thank the Members of the Council for their courtesy and interest in Public Health matters. I also wish to thank the Council's officers for their assistance in the several branches of the work. I would also express my special thanks to Mr. Hobson, your Sanitary Inspector, for his assistance and unceasing efforts to improve the Health Service and the Sanitary condition of the district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RAMSAY MILLAR,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 1937

Council Offices,
Darton.

April, 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I respectfully beg to present my fifth Annual Report and covering the period, 1st January to 31st December, 1937.

During the year under review a good deal of work has been carried out on housing matters, and the fact that detail reports were prepared on six Clearance Areas shows that a considerable amount of time has been expended under this heading. In addition, two new housing schemes were completed and two further schemes commenced, among these latter being the largest individual contract undertaken by this Council. Details were also prepared for the commencement of a further scheme early in 1938.

Two small schemes of privy conversions were carried out; unfortunately the uncertainty of the water supply question retarded the progress of privy conversion generally.

A re-survey of overcrowding conditions was carried out in the Darton Ward, and also in the Kexborough Ward.

General routine work such as inspections for nuisances, Food Inspection, Dairy and Cowshed Work, Scavenging and Cleansing, were all carried on as before, and although housing matters called for the bulk of my attention, none of the remaining services were neglected.

During the year the Public Health Act, 1936, came into force. This Act makes considerable alteration in the legislation, and in many cases calls for new procedure in dealing with old matters.

Reviewing the sanitary services generally, I suggest that the two items of outstanding importance, and needing almost full time attention are (a) Housing, (b) Privy Conversion.

When these two items are fully dealt with, and to the Council's satisfaction, the other matters can be dealt with as routine work.

The Council have already discussed the new legislation with regard to privy conversion, and I think it is generally agreed that much more rapid methods are now available for our use in cleaning up the remaining privies and ashpits in the Area. It is hoped that the water supply will be improved in the near future, so as to enable the Council to proceed in this matter with a set Annual programme as previously.

I beg to express my very sincere thanks to the members of the Council for their interest, consideration and support in the many duties carried out in the department which has for its primary object the improvement of the standard of health in the district.

The details of works carried out under the various headings are as follows:—

COMPLAINTS.

All complaints handed in, have received the earliest possible attention. It has been found possible in many cases to deal with these complaints by interview with the owners concerned. In these cases, no written notice has been served and the complaint has, therefore, not been recorded.

The complaints which have necessitated informal or formal action are classified below:—

Choked drains	.....	71
Defective drains	.....	16
Defective covers to inspection chambers	.....	8
Defective inspection chambers	.....	3
Defective ashpits	.....	2
Defective ashesbins.....	.....	60
Defective sinks	.....	8
Defective sink waste pipes	.....	4
Defective water-closets	.....	3
Defective ovens and flues	.....	12
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	.....	10
Defective roofs	.....	14
Defective sashcords	.....	3
Defective eavesgutters and fallpipes	.....	8

Water in cellar	2
Defective steps	4
Defective floors	12
Defective doors	4
Defective cooking ranges	10
Defective setpots	8
Damp walls	21
Total	283

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Visits to premises re Housing (primary)	68
Visits to premises re Housing (revisits)	1071
Visits to premises re Conversions (primary)	51
Visits to premises re Conversions (revisits)	172
Visits to premises re Nuisances (primary)	163
Visits to premises re Nuisances (revisits)	144
Visits to Slaughterhouses (food inspection)	408
Visits to Butchers Shops (food inspection)	5
Visits to Works in progress	743
Drains inspected and passed	430
Drains colour tested	19
Visits to Farms	81
Visits to Cowsheds	138
Visits to Dairies	27
Miscellaneous visits	494
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	510
Visits re Overcrowding (re Survey)	1923
Disinfections after Infectious Disease	57
Verminous premises cleansed	45
Visits to Schools	5
Visits re Infectious Disease	3
Visits to premises re Rats	1
Visits to premises re Cleanliness	20
Total	6,578

Notices as follows were served during the year:—
Public Health Acts—

Formal	16
Informal	205

Notices complied with:—

[illegible]

Housing Acts—

Two Informal Notices were served re the making of two houses, in all respects, fit for human habitation. These involved major repairs and reconditioning and were complied with.

Owners were provided with schedules of reconditioning for a further five houses, but at the close of the year, nothing had been done.

The formal notices served under the Housing Acts during the year related to Clearance Areas only. Seven Clearance Areas were confirmed and a further four Clearance Areas were awaiting Inquiry.

The following table shews details of work carried out during the year, excluding items which were carried out on verbal intimation :—

Privies converted into water-closets	53
New water-closets constructed as additional	6
New Urinals constructed	3
Ashpits abolished	27
Water-closets repaired	47
New drains laid	430
New vent shafts fixed	10
Portable ashesbins provided to premises	132
New inspection chambers constructed	133
New covers provided to inspection chambers	10
Choked drains cleared	71
Roofs repaired	12
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired or renewed	17
Damp walls remedied	8
New sinks provided	9
Ovens renewed	6
Sashcords renewed at premises	10
Eavesgutters and fallpipes renewed	16
Floors repaired	12
Cooking ranges repaired or renewed	10
Defective flues repaired	7
Dirty and verminous conditions cleansed	45

CLEANSING OF PREMISES FROM VERMIN.

During the year, 45 premises were cleansed from Vermin. The method of cleansing adopted is by spraying the house and effects with a fluid known as "Zaldecide" and manufactured by Messrs. Newton Chambers and Co., Ltd. Generally speaking the results obtained by this method are satisfactory. The fluid is simple and safe to use, and in a district such as this gives perhaps the best results. It is customary to disinfest all houses being vacated by tenants receiving new Council Houses, either as Clearance Area re-housing, Overcrowding re-housing, or normal changes of tenancy, providing of course, that Vermin is observed on the existing premises. The disinfestation service is also open to all residents who may find their houses infested.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Practically the whole of the meat exposed for sale in shops within the Area is slaughtered in private slaughterhouses within the Area. There is an ever increasing number of hawkers however whose meat is slaughtered outside the Area. On the other hand, a fair proportion of meat slaughtered in this Area is conveyed outside the Area for Sale.

There are 14 private slaughterhouses within the Area situated as follows :—

Gawber	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Higham	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Barugh	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Kexborough	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Darton	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Far Staincross	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Mapplewell and Staincross	.....	.....	.....	.....	7

The premises are all kept in a satisfactory condition and limewashing is regularly carried out. At the end of the year under review there were 40 licences in force issued to Slaughtermen under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Every effort has been made to examine the carcasses and offal of all animals slaughtered within the area for food purposes. The inspections are of the routine type and the method is as recommended in the Ministry of Health Circular, Memo. 62/ Foods.

During the year under review, I paid 408 visits to slaughter-houses and 5 visits to butchers shops on this work.

The Meat Traders have on all occasions given me every possible assistance in this work, and I have pleasure in acknowledging their co-operation and willingness in providing all necessary facilities.

The meat shewn in the following tables has on all occasions been voluntarily surrendered to me upon my inspection as being diseased, unsound or unwholesome and unfit for human consumption.

Number of Carcases, Parts of Carcases, Organs and Offals condemned as Unfit for Food.

	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Whole Carcases, including all offal	4	—	—	4
Part Carcases	7	—	—	7
Heads, including tongues	56	—	31	87
Lungs and Mediastinal fat	199	—	7	206
Livers	21	2	14	37
Hearts	4	—	3	7
Spleens	7	—	2	9
Kidneys	3	—	1	4
Stomachs	8	—	—	8
Udders	6	—	—	6
Diaphragms	2	—	—	2
Mesenteries	16	—	3	19
Intestines	2	—	—	2

Causes of Condemnation and Weight.

Disease.	Cattle lbs.	Sheep lbs.	Pigs lbs.	Total lbs.
Tuberculosis	9068	—	394	9462
Pneumonia	30	—	—	30
Cavernous Angioma	48	—	—	48
Pyemic Abscesses	16	—	—	16
Cirrhosis	16	4	—	20
Pericarditis	3	—	—	3
Bacillary Necrosis	48	—	16	64
Mastitis	38	—	—	38
Moribund	800	—	—	800
Totals	10067	4	410	10481

Total surrendered 10,481 lbs. or 4 tons, 13 cwts., 2 qrs., 9 lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep AND Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number Inspected ...	100	900	75	800	600
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	20	—	4	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis ...	—	2·3	—	0 5	0·66
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	3	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	270	—	—	40
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10·0	30·3	—	—	6·6

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Registered persons and premises in the area are as follows:

No. of Cowkeepers	.....	25
No. of Wholesalers	.....	10
No. of Retailers	.....	36
No. of Cowsheds	.....	49
No. of Cows	.....	400 app

During the year I paid 81 visits to farms, 138 visits to cowsheds and 27 visits to dairies, on inspection of premises and methods.

The following hold licences from the County Council to produce "Accredited" milk :—

R. W. Bell, Staincross.
 J. E. Buckley, Staincross.
 E. Maw, Gawber.
 A. Priest, Barugh.
 A. E. Fenn, Haigh,

Premises generally throughout the Area shew considerable improvement, there are however, several premises still requiring reconstruction. One cowshed has been reconstructed and modernised at Old Hall Farm, Higham, and a new modern dairy has been erected at Royd Hill Farm, Higham.

PRIVY ACCOMMODATION.

No Re-Survey has been made under this heading, but privies converted during 1937 have been deducted leaving the figures as follows :—

District	No. of Privies
Mapplewell and Staincross	298
Darton	26
Low Barugh	36
Gawber	23
Higham	24
Barugh Green	13
Kexboro' and Haigh	55
	<hr/>
	Total 475
	<hr/>

During the year, 13 privies included in Clearance Areas Nos. 1 and 3 were demolished. A further number of privies will also be demolished when the Clearance Orders now confirmed are put into effect.

In order to keep the total figures as accurate as possible, arrangements will be made to make a periodical re-survey of the Districts at suitable intervals.

OVERCROWDING.

During the year a re-survey was made for the purpose of ascertaining the number of overcrowded houses still existing in the Darton and Kexborough Wards, and 1,923 visits were made for this purpose.

At the end of 1936, overcrowded houses were as follows:—

Barugh Ward	60
Kexborough Ward	33
Darton Ward	99
Houses in Clearance Areas ...	30
	<hr/>
Total	222
	<hr/>

Taking the overcrowding in the Barugh Ward as being the same as in 1936 (the re-survey of this area not having been carried out) and deducting the 30 houses in Clearance Areas (which in most cases have been abated, and in the remaining cases will be abated early in 1938), our figures will shew overcrowding as follows:—

Barugh Ward	60
Kexborough Ward	16
Darton Ward	85
	<hr/>
Total	161
	<hr/>

This being a nett reduction of 61 cases.

The percentage of overcrowded houses in 1936 was 7.2 approximately; the percentage figure at the end of 1937 on the same basis is:—

No. of houses recorded	3,096
No. of houses overcrowded	161
Percentage of overcrowded houses ...	5.2

With the housing programme already in progress, I have no hesitation in saying that at the end of 1938 some further large reduction in these figures will have taken place.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House and Trade Refuse Collection.

The collection services for the district have been well maintained, and complaints generally have been few. The yield of refuse continues to increase, and generally speaking the staff and vehicles are working at full capacity for the full twelve months of the year. I am afraid that householders generally make very little effort to reduce refuse output, and our slack time never comes.

During the year 157 new houses were erected, 27 ash-pits abolished and approximately 100 bins substituted. In addition, we undertook to collect refuse from 72 houses in the Barnsley Rural District and these houses are to be added to our Area in 1938. These items obviously increase the work of the department both as regards number of extra calls and amount of refuse removed.

Departmental expenditure increased by £13 0s. 1d. over the year 1936, but 155 additional loads of refuse were collected. The load costs shew a reduction of 1.1d. per load, the cost per 1,000 houses shows a reduction of £12 0s. 0d. per 1,000 houses.

Disposal.

Our disposal continues to be by controlled tipping methods at the five refuse tips situated at Haigh, Mapplewell, Darton, Gawber and Cawthorne Basin. The minimum of nuisance has been created during the year. The disposal service calls for no special comment.

At the close of the year the collection and disposal services were working satisfactorily, and my thanks are tendered to the staff, for their loyal co-operation. I also tender my sincere thanks to the foreman, Mr. W. Gabbittas, for his loyal help and hard work throughout the past year.

The details of work done together with the cost of such work are shewn as follows:—

MONTH			No. Privies & Ashpits Cleansed.	No. of loads of Privy & Ashpit Refuse Collected & Disposed.	No. of loads of Ashbin Refuse Collected & Disposed.
January	.....	.....	436	328	251
February	.....	.....	536	387	252
March	.....	.....	467	345	251
April	.....	.....	536	384	252
May	.....	.....	438	314	251
June	.....	.....	423	316	249
July	.....	.....	438	327	248
August	.....	.....	386	312	247
September	.....	.....	427	324	249
October	.....	.....	418	326	256
November	.....	.....	427	332	260
December	.....	.....	387	312	262
TOTALS			5319	4007	3028

During the year the Mechanical Vehicles covered a distance of 11,447 miles, and consumed 1,639 gallons of petrol. The monthly average being approximately 954 miles with 136.6 gallons of petrol consumed.

Expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
Wages of Workmen	1,397	14	11
Rents, Rates, etc.	37	13	9
Horse Keep	56	6	10
Purchase of Horse	55	0	0
Hired Team Labour	44	5	6
Tools and Materials	17	17	1
Depot Repairs	6	17	7
Protective Clothing	13	0	11
Petrol and Oil	169	16	2
Repairs	86	4	7
Licences	62	5	10
Insurances	12	4	10
Depreciation on Vehicles	124	0	0
Total Expenditure	2,083	8	0

Income:—

Trade Refuse	1 16 0
Sale of Horse	4 10 0
Part of Payment by Barnsley R. D. C.	14 17 0
Miscellaneous	5 10 0
Saving of 2d. per gallon on 1,639 gallons of petrol	13 9 10
Total Income	40 2 10

Expenditure less Income—£2,043 5s. 2d.

Costs :—

7,035 loads cost £2,043 5s. 2d.

Cost per load, 5s. 9.7d. approx.

Cost per 1,000 population (13,050)—£156 10s. 0d. approx.

Cost per 1,000 houses (3,544)—£576 8s. 0d. approx.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

No routine smoke observations are taken as a general practice. Casual observations are however taken from time to time as occasion demands. There has been no nuisance observed under this heading during the year 1937.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

Every endeavour is made to give assistance from the department to persons whose premises are infested by rats.

Rat bait (which is harmless to domestic animals) is kept in stock at the office and distributed as occasion requires.

Special posters are displayed throughout the area during rat week, and every effort is made to encourage occupiers to eradicate rats from their premises.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
FACTORIES ..	2	Nil	Nil
WORKSHOPS ...	17	2	Nil
WORKPLACES	1	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	20	2	Nil

Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of Offences in respect to which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding				
Want of Ventilation				
Want of Drainage to floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Nuisances				
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient Unsuitable or defective... Not separate for sexes ... }	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory & Workshops Acts				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Others				
Total	1	1	Nil	Nil

HOUSING.

The year under review has undoubtedly been a successful year as regards housing progress. Not only has a greater number of Council houses been erected than ever in previous years, but schemes in hand also tend to have created a maximum peak of achievement. A total of 98 Council houses have been completed, 48 of these at Redbrook, 30 at Higham, and a further 20 at Longsight as part of 130 to be erected on the Staincross No. 1 Scheme. A further 32 houses are in progress at Higham, these being the Higham No. 2 Scheme, and are exclusively for re-housing displaced tenants from demolished property. Plans have also been approved for 34 additional houses at Longsight and described as the Staincross No. 2 Scheme. Thirty of these are also for re-housing from clearance areas. Preliminary plans are also being prepared for the Kexborough No. 2 Scheme, which consists of 38 houses, and of these, 15 are for re-housing purposes, the remainder being for the abatement of overcrowding. Included in the above mentioned schemes are 10 bungalows at Staincross and six bungalows at Kexborough, these are for aged people, and provide ample proof of the Council's intention to provide re-housing accommodation for all classes of the community. It is anticipated that the completion of these schemes will see the eradication of the bulk of our insanitary houses, and also abate the great bulk of the overcrowding at present existing within the area.

Preliminary survey work has also been carried out on Clearance Areas Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20, these are at Gawber, Higham and Barugh Green; the reports are to be compiled in 1938, and on the completion of these schemes there will, it is estimated, only remain some 60 or 70 houses within the area requiring clearance action.

One very great difficulty is always being met with in the provision of new housing accommodation, for displaced tenants, this being that in the bulk of cases, houses scheduled for clearance action usually contain only very small families, and necessitating the erection of a large number of two bedroom type houses. These are obviously of little use in the abatement of overcrowding, and it seems a considerable hardship to rehouse these people in larger houses than they require, and at considerably increased rents. If the new subsidy had been based on superficial floor area of houses provided, this difficulty may have been to some extent overcome.

During the year 68 primary inspections, and 1,071 re-inspections were made on housing work.

In March of this year a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on Clearance Areas Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, these include 63 houses at Staincross. The orders were confirmed in respect of 62 of the houses, the remaining house being excluded, the reason for this latter being somewhat obscure.

Reports were also prepared on Clearance Areas Nos. 9 and 10, these being situated at Barugh and Higham, and consisting of some 31 houses. A Ministry of Health Inquiry was held on these areas and the orders were subsequently confirmed in their entirety.

Reports were also prepared on Areas Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14, comprising some 32 houses at Darton, Kexborough and Mapplewell. The Ministry of Health Inquiry is to be held early in 1938.

The cost of new housing accommodation has continued to increase. The increase being due in the main to increased cost of materials, cement, timber, metalwork, slates and tiles, also wages have all contributed to this increase, which has thrown an added burden on Local Authorities in carrying out their re-housing programmes.

In order to bring the details of housing activities up to date, I am attaching the following brief summary of work done under this heading since 1934:—

Eight Houses, Church Street, Darton ...	Fully reconditioned
Three Houses, Church Street, Gawber ...	Do.
Four Houses, Edward St., Mapplewell	Do.
Three Houses, Poplar Yard, Gawber ...	Do.
One House, Higham Common Road,	Major repairs
Higham	carried out
Four Cottages, Hill Top, Gawber ...	Fully reconditioned
Four Cottages, Gawber Hall Farm,	
Gawber	Demolished
One family rehoused at Greenside.	
One family rehoused at Redbrook.	
One family found own accommodation locally.	
One family left the district.	

- One House, Belle Vue, Mapplewell ... Closing order determined after major repairs carried out
- Five Houses, Church Street, Gawber ... Fully reconditioned
- Three Cottages, Redbrook Rd., Gawber ... Three families
Demolished as individual houses re-housed at Redbrook
- Clearance Area No. 1, Park Square, Gawber.
18 houses all confirmed—demolished.
18 families rehoused at Redbrook.
- Clearance Area No. 2, Intake Lane, Church Street and Pease Row, Gawber.
18 houses—all confirmed—demolished.
18 families rehoused at Redbrook.
- Clearance Area No. 3, Church St. and Intake Lane, Gawber.
7 houses—all confirmed—demolished.
7 families rehoused at Redbrook.
- Three Houses, Broad Royd Head, Staincross. (Two of these were unoccupied)—all demolished as individual houses.
One family rehoused at Kexborough.
- One House, Claycliffe Cottage, Redbrook.
Closed as part of a building.
One family rehoused at Redbrook.
- Two Cottages, Dayhouse Lane, Gawber. Demolished as individual houses.
One family rehoused at Higham No. 1 Scheme.
One family left district.
- Four Cottages, Carr Green Lane, Mapplewell.
Awaiting demolition as individual houses.
Four families to be rehoused at Staincross.
- Clearance Area No. 4, Spark Lane, Mapplewell.
10 houses—confirmed—awaiting demolition.
Two houses unoccupied, eight families to be rehoused at Staincross.
- Clearance Area No. 5, Spark Lane, Mapplewell.
6 houses—all confirmed—awaiting demolition.
6 families to be rehoused at Staincross.

Clearance Area No. 6, Carr Green Lane, Mapplewell.

10 houses—all confirmed—awaiting demolition.

10 families to be rehoused at Staincross.

Clearance Area No. 7, Blacker Road, Mapplewell.

3 houses—all confirmed—awaiting demolition.

3 families to be rehoused at Staincross.

Clearance Area No. 8, Spring Gardens, Mapplewell.

34 houses—33 confirmed—awaiting demolition.

33 families to be rehoused at Staincross.

Clearance Area No. 9, Barugh Green Lane, Barugh.

8 houses—all confirmed—awaiting demolition.

8 families to be rehoused at Higham No. 2 Scheme.

One House, Higham Common Road, Higham.

Closing Order as part of a building in force.

One family to be rehoused at Higham No. 2 Scheme.

Clearance Area No. 10, Higham.

23 houses—all confirmed—awaiting demolition.

23 families to be rehoused at Higham No. 2 Scheme.

One House, New Road, Staincross.

Closing Order as part of a building in force.

One family to be rehoused at Staincross.

One House, Churchfield Lane, Kexborough.

Individual demolition order in force.

One family to be rehoused at Kexborough No. 2 Scheme.

Two Houses, Churchfield Lane, Kexboro' Thoroughly reconditioned

Four Houses, Towngate, Mapplewell ... Undertaking
accepted from
owner for
thoroughly
reconditioning

Clearance Area No. 11, Towngate, Mapplewell.
8 houses—awaiting inquiry.

Clearance Area No. 12, Towngate, Mapplewell.
10 houses—awaiting inquiry.

Clearance Area No. 13, Barnsley Road, Darton.
5 houses—awaiting inquiry.

Clearance Area No. 14, Churchfield Lane, Kexborough.
9 houses—awaiting inquiry.

The whole of the houses in Clearance Areas Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14 have since been confirmed. The 18 families from Areas 11 and 12 will be re-housed at Staincross No. 2 Scheme, and the 14 families from Areas Nos. 13 and 14 will be rehoused at Kexborough No. 2 Scheme.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the members of the Council for their kindness during the year; Dr. Millar for his kindly supervision, and all the Officers of the Council for their courtesy during the past year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HAROLD HOBSON,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

